

### ***Uromyces nyikensis* on *Gladiolus***

*Uromyces nyikensis* is a microcyclic rust considered of plant quarantine importance in the United States. It only has been reported from the Nyika plateau in Zambia (Africa), where it is a minor disease.

***Uromyces nyikensis*** Syd. & P. Syd., Ann. Mycol. 2: 27. 1904

**Spermogonia, aecia and uredinia** unknown.

**Telia:** amphigenous, along veins, sometimes on chlorotic spots, scattered, small, subepidermal, round to oblong, 0.3-1 mm long, up to 2 mm long, without paraphyses; teliospores variable in shape, subglobose to ovoid, frequently angular, 19-32 × 14-22 µm, smooth, cinnamon-brown, lighter brown toward base, wall 2-3 µm, apex round, truncate to umbonate, 3-9 µm, sometimes light brown; pedicel hyaline, smooth, up to 30 µm long.

**Host:** on leaves of *Gladiolus erectiflorus* Baker.

**Geographic distribution:** Zambia (Nyika plateau)

**Specimen examined:** on *Gladiolus erectiflorus* Baker (as *Gladiolus nyikensis* Baker), Zambia (Zambia/Malawi), Nyika plateau, leg. White (B 70 0005183) III, Type.

Two other species of *Uromyces* are reported on *Gladiolus*. Included in this series, *Uromyces transversalis* produces paraphysate sori that are transverse to the veins of the host. *Uromyces gladioli* is similar to *U. nyikensis* in the production of telia without paraphyses, but the teliospores of *U. gladioli* are larger, 22.5-35 × 20-25 µm. Additional rust fungi reported on *Gladiolus* include *Uredo gladioli-büttneri*, a species that lacks teliospores, and *Puccinia gladioli* and *Puccinia maccleanii* in which the teliospores are one-septate. These three rust species are considered quarantine plant pests for the U.S.



